

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An information distribution system transmitting a contents information file from a server apparatus to a terminal apparatus based on a request signal from the terminal apparatus,

the server apparatus comprising:

a storage unit for storing the contents information file;

a first transceiver for communication with the terminal apparatus and for receiving the request signal from the terminal apparatus requesting the contents information file; and

a first controller for scheduling a distribution time period in which the requested contents information file is distributed over a communication line in accordance with the request signal based on a state of the communication line and for controlling the system for the distribution of the contents information file to the terminal apparatus through the first transceiver [[at]] in the distribution time period, and

the terminal apparatus comprising:

a second transceiver for communication with the server apparatus; and

a second controller for generating the request signal for requesting the distribution of the contents information file, for controlling the system for transmission of the request signal to the server apparatus through the second transceiver, and for controlling the system for reception of the contents information file distributed by the

server apparatus in the distribution time period scheduled by the server apparatus,
wherein

the request signal comprises a time limit ~~information~~ for the distribution of the contents information file ~~indicating a time limit for distribution of the information~~; and

the first controller schedules the distribution time period based on the time limit for the distribution and the state of the communication line.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The information distribution system of claim 1, wherein the first controller of the server apparatus detects a traffic load of the communication line and distributes the contents information file when the traffic load is small.

4. (Currently Amended) The information distribution system of claim 3, wherein the terminal apparatus further comprises an interface for providing information to a user,

the server apparatus schedules the distribution time period by estimating a period time before the time limit ~~[[of]]~~ for the distribution when the traffic load of the communication line is small, controls the system for notification of the distribution time period to the terminal apparatus, and schedules the distribution of the contents information file in ~~[[at]]~~ the distribution time period, and

the second controller of the terminal apparatus controls the system for providing the distribution time period to the interface.

5. (Currently Amended) The information distribution system of claim 1, wherein the first controller of the server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for the distribution of the contents information file based on a length of time until the time limit ~~[[of]]~~ for the distribution and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge.

6. (Previously Presented) The information distribution system of claim 1, wherein the second transceiver of the terminal apparatus communicates with the server apparatus through a wireless transmission base station.

7. (Currently Amended) The information distribution system of claim 6, wherein the first controller of the server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for the distribution of the contents information file based on an efficiency of use of a communication resource in communication between the terminal apparatus and the wireless transmission base station and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge.

8. (Currently Amended) The information distribution system of claim 1, wherein the first controller of the server apparatus calculates cost information indicating communication costs based on the state of the communication line by region, by time band, or by time band for individual regions and controls the system for distribution of the calculated cost information to the terminal apparatus;

the second controller of the terminal apparatus generates the request signal comprising a signal including distribution information designating a desired region or desired time band or both for the distribution of the contents information file; and

the server apparatus schedules the system for the distribution of the contents information file to the designated region and time band based on the request signal.

9. (Currently Amended) A terminal apparatus receiving distribution of a contents information file from a server apparatus, the terminal apparatus comprising:

a transceiver for communication with the server apparatus; and

a controller for generating a request signal for requesting the distribution of the contents information file, for controlling the system for transmission of the request signal to the server apparatus through the transceiver, and for controlling the system for reception of the contents information file distributed by the server apparatus in a distribution time period scheduled by the server apparatus, wherein

the request signal comprises a signal including ~~time limit information indicating a~~ time limit for the distribution of the contents information file.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) The terminal apparatus of claim 9, further comprising an interface for providing information to a user, wherein the controller controls the system for providing the distribution time period to the interface.

12. (Previously Presented) The terminal apparatus of claim 9, wherein the transceiver communicates with the server apparatus through a wireless transmission base station.

13. (Currently Amended) The terminal apparatus of claim 9, wherein the controller generates the request signal comprising a signal including distribution information designating a desired region or desired time band or both for the distribution of the contents information file.

14. (Previously Presented) The terminal apparatus of claim 13, further comprising an interface for providing information to a user,
wherein the controller controls the system for receiving cost information from the server apparatus and providing to the user through the interface the cost information based on a state of a communication line by region, by time band, or by time band for individual regions.

15. (Currently Amended) The terminal apparatus of claim 9, further comprising an interface for providing information to a user,
wherein the terminal apparatus controls the system for receiving a period of time from the server apparatus and providing to the interface the period of time before [[a]] the time limit [[of]] for the distribution and time band in which a traffic load of a communication line is small.

16. (Currently Amended) The terminal apparatus of claim 9, further comprising
a counter for internally measuring time;
a power supply for controlling the supply of power to each portion of the terminal
apparatus and substantially making each portion valid or invalid; and
a storage for storing information, wherein
the controller receives the distribution time period from the server apparatus,
stores the distribution time period in the storage, starts the supply of power from the
power supply and receives the contents information file distributed from the server
apparatus when the parts of the terminal apparatus are invalid in state near the
distribution time period based on the distribution time period stored in the storage and
the internally measured time.

17. (Currently Amended) The terminal apparatus of claim 16, wherein the
controller stops the supply of power from the power supply and makes the parts of the
terminal apparatus invalid in state when the reception of the contents information file
distributed from the server apparatus ends.

18. (Withdrawn) A server apparatus transmitting information based on a
demand from a terminal apparatus,
said server apparatus comprising:
a transceiver for transmission to the terminal apparatus; and
a controller for scheduling a point of time for distribution based on a state of a
communication line used for distribution of information in accordance with a request

signal requesting information from the terminal apparatus received at said transceiver and controlling the system from distribution of information for said request signal to the terminal apparatus through the transceiver at the scheduled point of time.

19. (Withdrawn) A server apparatus as set forth in claim 18, wherein an internal controller schedules the point of time for distribution of information based on the time limit information indicating a time limit for distribution of said information included in said request signal and the state of a communication line.

20. (Withdrawn) A server apparatus as set forth in claim 19, wherein the controller detects a traffic load of said communication line and distributes the information at period of time when the traffic load is small.

21. (Withdrawn) A server apparatus as set forth in claim 20, wherein said controller estimates a period of time until the time limit of distribution and a point of time when the traffic load is small, controls the system for notification of said estimated point of time to said terminal apparatus, and schedules distribute the information at the estimated point of time.

22. (Withdrawn) A server apparatus as set forth in claim 18, wherein said controller calculates an amount of charge for distribution of information based on a length of the period of time until the time limit of distribution designated by the terminal

apparatus and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge.

23. (Withdrawn) A server apparatus as set forth in claim 18, where said controller calculates an amount of charge for distribution of information based on an efficiency of use of a communication resource in communication between said terminal apparatus and said based station and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge.

24. (Withdrawn) A server apparatus as set forth in claim 18, where said controller calculates cost information indicating communication costs based on a state of said communication line by region, by time band, or by time band for individual regions and controls the system for distribution of the calculated cost information to the terminal apparatus and schedules distribution of information to the designated region and time band based on the request signal.

25. (Currently Amended) An information distribution method for transmitting a contents information file from a server apparatus to a terminal apparatus based on a request signal from the terminal apparatus, the method comprising the steps of:

generating, in the terminal apparatus, a request signal requesting distribution of the contents information file;

transmitting the request signal from the terminal apparatus to the server apparatus;

scheduling, in the server apparatus, a distribution time period for the distribution over a communication line in accordance with the request signal;

distributing the contents information file from the server apparatus to the terminal apparatus ~~[[at]]~~ in the distribution time period; and

receiving, in the terminal apparatus, the contents information file distributed from the server apparatus, wherein

the request signal includes ~~time-limit information indicating~~ a time limit ~~[[of]]~~ for the distribution of the contents information file; and

the distribution time period is scheduled based on the time limit ~~information~~ of the request signal and ~~[[the]]~~ a state of the communication line.

26. (Canceled).

27. (Currently Amended) The information distribution method of claim 25, wherein the server apparatus detects a traffic load of the communication line and schedules the distribution of the contents information file when the traffic load is small.

28. (Currently Amended) The information distribution method of claim 25, wherein, when receiving the request signal, the server apparatus schedules the distribution time period by estimating a period of time before the time limit for the distribution when ~~[[the]]~~ a traffic load of the communication line is small, sends a notification of the distribution time period to the terminal apparatus, and distributes the contents information file ~~[[at]]~~ in the distribution time period.

29. (Currently Amended) The information distribution method of claim 27, wherein the server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for the distribution of the contents information file based on a length of time until the time limit ~~[[of]]~~ for the distribution and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge.

30. (Previously Presented) The information distribution method of claim 25, wherein the terminal apparatus communicates with the server apparatus through a wireless communication base station.

31. (Currently Amended) The information distribution method of claim 30, wherein the server apparatus calculates an amount of charge for the distribution of the contents information file based on an efficiency of use of a communication resource in communication between the terminal apparatus and the wireless communication base station and performs processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge.

32. (Currently Amended) The information distribution method of claim 25, wherein:

the server apparatus calculates cost information indicating communication costs based on the state of the communication line by region, by time band, or by time band

for individual regions and distributes the calculated cost information to the terminal apparatus;

the terminal apparatus generates the signal request comprising a signal including distribution information designating a region or time band or both for the distribution of the contents information file; and

the server apparatus schedules the distribution of the contents information file to the designated region and time band based on the request signal.

33. (Currently Amended) A data reception method for receiving distribution of a contents information file from a server apparatus, the method comprising the steps of:

generating a request signal requesting the distribution of the contents information file, the request signal comprising ~~time-limit information indicating~~ a time limit for the distribution of the contents information file;

transmitting the request signal to the server apparatus; and

receiving the contents information file distributed by the server apparatus during a distribution time period scheduled by the server apparatus.

34. (Canceled).

35. (Currently Amended) The data reception method of claim 33, further comprising generating the request signal comprising a signal including distribution information designating a desired region or desired time band or both for the distribution of the contents information file.

36. (Previously Presented) The data reception method of claim 35, further comprising receiving from the server apparatus cost information indicating communication costs based on a state of a communication line by region or by time band or by time band for individual regions.

37. (Currently Amended) The data reception method of claim 33, further comprising providing a user with a period of time before the time limit ~~[[of]]~~ for the distribution when a traffic load of a communication line is small.

38. (Currently Amended) The data reception method of claim 33, further comprising the steps of:
internally measuring time;
receiving the distribution time period from the server apparatus; and
controlling a power supply of a receiver to enable reception of the contents information file distributed from the server apparatus near the distribution time period based on the distribution time period and the internally measured time.

39. (Currently Amended) The data reception method of claim 38, further comprising controlling the power supply of the receiver to cut the supply of power to at least part of the receiver when the receiver finishes receiving the contents information file distributed by the server apparatus.

40. (Withdrawn) A data transmission method for transmitting information based on a request from a terminal apparatus,

said data transmission method for transmitting information based on a request from a terminal apparatus, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request signal requesting information from a terminal apparatus;

scheduling a point of time for distribution based on a state of a communication line used for distribution of information; and

transmitting the information for the request signal to the terminal apparatus at the scheduled point of time.

41. (Withdrawn) A data transmission method as set forth in claim 40, further comprising a step of scheduling the point of time for distribution of information based on the time limit information indicating a time limit of distribution of information included in said request signal and the state of the communication line.

42. (Withdrawn) A data transmission method as set forth in claim 41, further comprising a step of detecting a traffic load of said communication line and scheduling distribution of said information in a period of time when the traffic load is small.

43. (Withdrawn) A data transmission method as set forth in claim 42, further comprising the steps of, when receiving said request signal, estimating a period of time until said time limit of distribution and point of time where the traffic load is small,

notifying said estimated point of time to said terminal apparatus, and scheduling distribution of said information at the estimated point of time.

44. (Withdrawn) A data transmission method as set forth in claim 40, further comprising a step of calculating an amount of charge for distribution of information based on a length of the period of time until the time limit of distribution and performing processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge.

45. (Withdrawn) A data transmission method as set forth in claim 40, further comprising a step of calculating an amount of charge for distribution of information based on an efficiency of use of a communication resource in communication between said terminal apparatus and a wireless communication based station and performing processing for charging the terminal apparatus based on the calculated amount of charge.

46. (Withdrawn) A data transmission method as set forth in claim 40, further comprising a step of calculating cost information indicating communication costs based on a state of said communication line by region, by time band, or by time band for individual regions and distributing the calculated cost information to the terminal apparatus.

47. (Withdrawn) A data transmission method as set forth in claim 46, further comprising a step of scheduling distribution of information to a region and time band included in a request signal from said terminal apparatus.

48. (New) An information distribution system, which includes a server apparatus and a plurality of terminal apparatuses, transmitting a contents information file from the server apparatus to a terminal apparatus based on a request signal from the terminal apparatus,

the server apparatus comprising:

a storage unit for storing a plurality of contents information files; and

a first transceiver for communication with the plurality of terminal apparatuses and for receiving a plurality of request signals from the plurality of terminal apparatuses requesting the plurality of contents information files; and

a first controller for deciding a distribution time schedule that indicates a schedule of a distribution time of each of the plurality of contents information files requested by the plurality of terminal apparatuses based on a state of a communication line and for controlling the system for the distribution of the plurality of contents information files to the plurality of terminal apparatuses through the first transceiver based on the distribution time schedule, and

each of the plurality of terminal apparatuses comprising:

a second transceiver for communication with the server apparatus; and

a second controller for generating the request signal for requesting the distribution of the contents information file, for controlling the system for transmission of

the request signal to the server apparatus through the second transceiver, and for controlling the system for reception of the contents information file distributed by the server apparatus based on the distribution time schedule.